

REMARKS

Claims **1-29** are pending. By this Amendment, claims 1, 3, 6, 7, 9, 10, 12, 13, 17, 21 and 23 are amended. Support for the claim amendments can be found in Fig. 4 and paragraphs [0068], [0069], [0075] and [0076] of the instant published application No. 2002/0059211. Reconsideration and timely withdrawal of the pending rejections are requested for the reasons discussed below.

Telephone Interview

Applicant appreciates the courtesy extended by Examiner Fleurantin in the Telephone Interview of January 27, 2009. In the Interview, Applicant's representative pointed out that the Section 101 rejection of claims 10-12 appears incorrect as claim 10 does not recite steps. The Examiner agreed and indicated that this rejection would be withdrawn with reference to claims 10-12. Applicant's representative also discussed the Section 101 rejection of claims 13-16, 20 and 25. The Examiner agreed that adding to the displaying step that it occurs on the portable terminal would overcome this rejection.

Applicant's representative additionally explained how the prior art rejections were improper because, among other things, the Examiner was taking an overly broad interpretation of the prior art documents and the claims and did not appreciate the fact that the claims recite a management area of a building and/or floor maps of a management area. The Examiner agreed that this aspect was not fully considered.

The Examiner also agreed that if this feature was emphasized in regards to the
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management area having fixed items and that the object to be managed is displayed in reference to the fixed items, such features would advance prosecution and result in reconsideration of the applied rejections.

Applicant notes that while Applicant has amended the independent claims as proposed in the Interview, Applicant is not conceding in this application that these claims, prior to the instant amendment, are not patentable over the art cited by the Examiner. The present claim amendments are only for facilitating expeditious prosecution of possible allowable subject matter. Applicant respectfully reserves the right to pursue these and other claims in one or more continuations and/or divisional patent applications.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant acknowledges that claims 3, 9 and 12 were indicated to contain allowable subject matter. As claims 3, 9 and 12 have been presented in independent form, these claims should be indicated to be allowed. Furthermore, as the claims have been amended to recite subject matter which the Examiner agreed would likely overcome the applied art, all of the pending rejected claims also believed to be in condition for allowance.

35 U.S.C. § 101 Rejection

Claims 10-12, 13-16, 20 and 25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. This rejection is now moot.

As explained in the above-noted Interview, the Section 101 rejection of claims 10-12

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appears incorrect as claim 10 does not recite steps. The Examiner agreed and indicated that this rejection would be withdrawn with reference to claims 10-12.

With regard to claims 13-16, 20 and 25, Applicant notes that the Examiner agreed that adding to the displaying step in claim 13, as presented herein, that it occurs on the portable terminal would overcome this rejection.

Applicant requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejection of the above-noted claims under 35 U.S.C. § 101.

35 U.S.C. § 103(a) Rejections

Over Naito, Kobayashi, Inaki and Fujita

Claims 1, 2, 4-6, 10, 11, 19, 21 and 22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,867,110 issued to NAITO et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,263,347 issued to KOBAYASHI et al. and U.S. Patent No. 5,835,916 issued to INAKI et al., and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,544,052 issued to FUJITA et al. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

The Examiner asserted that the combined teachings of these documents discloses all the features recited in these claims. Applicant disagrees.

Notwithstanding the Office Action assertions as to what each of these documents disclose or suggest, Applicant submits that no proper combination of these documents discloses or suggests at least the features of claims 1, 6 and 10 for the reasons already made of record and as herein amended.

In addition to the arguments asserted in Applicant's previous response regarding these documents (which are incorporated herein), Applicant disagrees that any of these documents teaches the newly added features of these claims. Indeed, the Examiner acknowledged in the above-noted Interview that none of these documents appears to teach the recited management area of a building and/or floor maps of a management area. Furthermore, the Examiner agreed that this rejection would likely be overcome if claims 1, 6 and 10 are amended to clarify that the management area has fixed items and that the object to be managed is displayed in reference to the fixed items.

Finally, Applicant submits that dependent claims 2, 4, 5, 11, 19, 21 and 22 are allowable at least for the reason that these claims depend from allowable base claims and because these claims recite additional features that further define the present invention.

Applicant requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejection of the above-noted claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

Over Naito with Kobayashi

Claims 7, 8, 13-18, 20 and 23-25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,867,110 issued to NAITO et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,263,347 issued to KOBAYASHI et al. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

The Examiner asserted that the combined teachings of these documents discloses all the features recited in these claims. Applicant disagrees.

Notwithstanding the Office Action assertions as to what each of these documents disclose
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or suggest, Applicant submits that no proper combination of these documents discloses or suggests at least the features of claims 7, 13 and 17 for the reasons already made of record and as herein amended.

In addition to the arguments asserted in Applicant's previous response regarding these documents (which are incorporated herein), Applicant disagrees that any of these documents teaches the newly added features of these claims. Indeed, the Examiner acknowledged in the above-noted Interview that none of these documents appears to teach the recited management area of a building and/or floor maps of a management area. Furthermore, the Examiner agreed that this rejection would likely be overcome if claims 7, 13 and 17 are amended to clarify that the management area has fixed items and that the object to be managed is displayed in reference to the fixed items.

Finally, Applicant submits that dependent claims 8, 14-16, 18, 20 and 23-25 are allowable at least for the reason that these claims depend from allowable base claims and because these claims recite additional features that further define the present invention.

Applicant requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejection of the above-noted claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicant submits that all of the claims are patentably distinct from the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below, if needed.

P26829.A12

Please charge any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayment of fees to **IBM Deposit**
Account 09-0457.

Respectfully submitted,
Shingo KURAMOCHI

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew M. Calderon', written over a horizontal dashed line.

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January 29, 2009
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